

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM  
February 9, 2004 7:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** Brian C. Warburton, Chairman, Virginia Bridle,  
William Sullivan, Cliff Pratt, James Workman  
James Barrington, Town Manager  
Karen Anderson, Administrative Assistant

**I. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Boy Scout Troop 177 led the audience in the flag salute.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On February 14<sup>th</sup> there will be a Polish Dinner at Hobbs House from 5-7 PM.

Penguin Plunge

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Penguin Plunge took place this past weekend with over 724 plungers raising just under \$400,000 for the Special Olympics. The Board commended Police Captain Jamie Sullivan and Mary Conroy of the Special Olympics, co-chairmen of the event, for their efforts.

Candidates Night

The Hampton PTA will be holding a Candidates Night on February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Mr. Warburton urged all candidates for office to attend and share their views and explain why they are running for office.

Town Election

The annual town election will be on Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 7AM to 8PM at the Marston School. Absentee ballots will be available through the Town Clerk.

**III. APPOINTMENTS**

1. Peter Argue, Eagle Scout Candidate

Mr. Warburton welcomed Peter Argue and noted that he is one of five Winnacunnet students who have been nominated to a military academy. Mr. Patrick Collins, chairman of the Heritage Commission explained that Peter approached the Heritage Commission with a proposal to document the historical properties in Hampton for his Eagle Scout project, and has spent months and hundreds of hours on this project. Mr. Collins said that the result is a resource that will be used by Hampton residents for years to come. Mr. Argue explained that he has photographed and provided information on 115 properties that are shown on the 1814 map of Hampton. Mr. Pratt told the Board that he has seen the project, it was a tremendous amount of work and he is very proud of Peter for this accomplishment. Mr. Sullivan asked where the book will be able to be viewed by residents. Mr. Argue said that it would be available through the Town Clerk's Office. The project was presented to Town Clerk Arleen Andreozzi. Mrs. Andreozzi said that she was pleased to accept this on behalf of the Town of Hampton and the Heritage Commission.

Mr. Collins presented a silver bowl to past chairman of the Heritage Commission, Elizabeth Aykroyd, thanking her for her outstanding efforts and dedication to both the Boy Scouts and the Heritage Commission.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

Town Manager's Report

Coalition Communities

Mr. Barrington reported that he attended a brief meeting of the Coalition Communities on Monday morning at the NHMA office in Concord. With the departure of Ted Jankowski, Pat Remick will continue to handle the coordination of efforts.

Franchise Fee

Mr. Barrington reported that the town has received a check from Comcast this week for the July – December 2003, franchise payment. The total 4% was \$79,373.00. One percent of that 4% is utilized by the Cable Committee for the operation of channel 22.

Supreme Court Appeal

The State Supreme Court ruled in the town's favor to deny the appeal of Mr. Brewster in the Great Boar's Head case.

Bus Lettering

The lettering for the new minibus has been ordered and is scheduled for installation on Tuesday of next week.

Blower – Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mr. Barrington told the Board that there is a mediation session scheduled for Wednesday, February 11, on the suit regarding the blower problem at the wastewater treatment plant.

Town Website

Mr. Barrington reminded the Board that about two years ago, the Board of Selectmen instructed him to make development of a Town website a low priority. About two months ago there was some discussion of the desirability of having an official Town of Hampton website. Mr. Barrington said that he is prepared to expand the services and information offered through the website at [www.town.hampton.nh.us](http://www.town.hampton.nh.us) if it is the Board's desire. He stressed that it is important that it is done correctly and that the information is current and timely.

Mr. Pratt asked if Mr. Barrington felt that it could be done with the current staff. Mr. Barrington said that with the information technology staff person, he believes that someone in each department can be trained to maintain the site for their department. Mr. Pratt said that he has extensive experience with web sites and knows that they are a lot of work. Mrs. Bridle said that for her, it comes down to who will be doing it and what they will not be able to do as a result of working on a web site. Mr. Barrington said that the posting of the Selectmen's minutes and agendas will be done by his office and he expects that the departments will handle their own items. Mr. Sullivan said that he has looked at a lot of municipal websites and believes that there is a lot of talent in the town that could do a good job with this, however it is very important that it be maintained. Mr. Workman said that a web site is very labor intensive and if it is not done well, it is worse than doing nothing at all. Mr. Warburton noted that the City of Portsmouth has been recognized several times as a result of the excellent site that they maintain. Mr. Pratt suggested that it may be possible to utilize some of the cable franchise fees for this purpose.

The Board agreed that the Town Manager should put together a plan that would establish how the site will be put together and maintained.

Police Facility

Progress continues on the new police station and it is anticipated that the brick masons will be on site next week, beginning work on the vehicle maintenance building.

Christmas Parade

The Town Manager told the Board that a check has been received from the Chamber of Commerce refunding the balance of the Town's contribution toward the 2003 Christmas parade. A copy of their letter was enclosed in the Selectmen's packets.

President's Day

The Transfer Station will be closed on President's Day and trash collection scheduled for Monday will be picked up on Tuesday. The Board of Selectmen determined that they will hold a meeting if necessary.

Audit

The 2003 audit arrived today and was delivered to the printer for the Town Report. The reports are expected within a week. Mrs. Bridle asked if the town is getting in line to be in compliance with GASB 34 next year. Mr. Barrington said that he would expect that the Town would still not be in compliance with the new requirements. He explained that due to the cost impact of coming into compliance, the auditing firms understand that this will be burdensome to many communities. The financial reports that are done are accurate, but don't reflect the fixed asset inventory. Mrs. Bridle asked how much the cost will be. Mr. Barrington said that it will be approximately \$250,000.

Roundtable Discussion

The Board of Selectmen set Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9AM for the annual roundtable discussion of the warrant articles.

Hurd Farm

Mr. Barrington announced to the Board that he received a call from LCHIP today informing him that the Town had been awarded \$100,000 towards the purchase of the conservation easement for the Hurd Farm.

**V. NEW BUSINESS****1. Request to Hang Banner**

The Lions Club has requested permission to hang a banner across Lafayette Road for the week prior to their annual auction. Mr. Sullivan said that he does not have a problem with this as long as the banner meets the town specifications. Mr. Workman asked who generally hangs the banners. Mr. Barrington said that the Fire Department does.

**Mr. Workman MOTIONED** that the Board of Selectmen authorize the Lions Club to hang a banner across Lafayette Road.

**Mrs. Bridle SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

Use of Town Buildings/Channel 22

Mr. Pratt said that the Board should discuss establishing a policy on the use of town buildings and the use of channel 22. Mrs. Bridle agreed and said she was surprised when she learned that the fire station was being used to host a chili festival for Senator Kerry. Mr. Workman said that the cable committee had drafted a policy that the Board had made comments on, but he was not sure what the status was on that. Mr. Sullivan agreed that a policy needs to be put into place because there were some hard feelings in regard to a video that had been made to promote the WHS addition that could not be shown. He added that the Conservation Commission currently has a 30 second video showing regarding the Hurd Farm, but it is informative only and only asks that people vote. Mr. Sullivan said that he did not have a problem allowing the use of town buildings as long as it did not interfere with any municipal uses and that access is available to everyone. The Board agreed that any use should be requested of the Board, rather than just informing the Board of a use. Mr. Warburton said that many towns allow use of their buildings for events similar to what was held in Hampton. Mr. Workman said that the advantage to the town of having a written policy is that it takes the discretion out of the decision. Mr. Barrington will draft a policy for the Board's review.

Mr. MacKinnon, Chairman of the Cable Committee was present and told the Board that the Cable Committee is in the process of updating the access policy and will get together with the Board again. He added that the WHS Addition video has been redone and it appears that it now meets the criteria of the Board. Mr. Workman said that he is not in favor of showing any video related to a warrant article. Mr. Warburton pointed out that the Board of Selectmen has given their unanimous support to the WHS addition.

**VI. MINUTES**

The minutes of January 26, 2004 were accepted as written.

**VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Authorization of Boat Agent
2. Abatement – Map 15, Lot 10-2
3. Leased Land Assignment, Deed, Transfer Tax Verification; 12 M Street
4. Lien Releases – Book 3623-Page 0855, Book 3347-Page 1092
5. Entertainment Permit – Galley Hatch Catering (Inn of Hampton Conference Center)

Mr. Sullivan removed item #1 from the consent agenda.

**Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED** that the Board of Selectmen approve the balance of the consent agenda.

**Mr. Workman SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

Mr. Sullivan asked what the Authorization of the Boat Agent (Item #1) was. Mrs. Anderson explained that it is the annual authorization for the Town Clerk to register boats.

**Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED** that the Chairman be authorized to sign the letter authorizing Arleen Andreozzi to act as boat agent.

**Mr. Workman SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

Birth Announcement

Mrs. Bridle announced the arrival of Zebulam Isaac Page, son of Nathan and Alison (Grandmaison) Page.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Workman MOTIONED** that the meeting be adjourned. (8:20 PM)

**Mr. Sullivan SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

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Chairman